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Agenda item 1
Organizational and procedural matters

Annotations to the agenda for the twenty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council

Note by the Secretary-General

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1. Organizational and procedural matters

Date and venue of the session

1. In accordance with its annual programme of work, the Human Rights Council will hold its twenty-sixth session from 10 to 27 June 2014 at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

2. In accordance with rule 8 (b) of the rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council, as contained in section VII of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, the organizational meeting for the twenty-sixth session will be held on 26 May 2014.

Agenda of the session

3. The agenda of the Human Rights Council is contained in section V of the annex to Council resolution 5/1. The Council will have before it the present annotations relating to items included in the agenda for the twenty-sixth session.

Composition of the Human Rights Council

4. The composition of the Human Rights Council at its twenty-sixth session is as follows:[1] Algeria (2016); Argentina (2015); Austria (2014); Benin (2014); Botswana (2014); Brazil (2015); Burkina Faso (2014); Chile (2014); China (2016); Congo (2014); Costa Rica (2014); Côte d'Ivoire (2015); Cuba (2016); Czech Republic (2014); Estonia (2015); Ethiopia (2015); France (2016); Gabon (2015); Germany (2015); India (2014); Indonesia (2014); Ireland (2015); Italy (2014); Japan (2015); Kazakhstan (2015); Kenya (2015); Kuwait (2014); Maldives (2016); Mexico (2016); Montenegro (2015); Morocco (2016); Namibia (2016); Pakistan (2015); Peru (2014), Philippines (2014); Republic of Korea (2015); Romania (2014); Russian Federation (2016); Saudi Arabia (2016); Sierra Leone (2015); South Africa (2016); the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2016); United Arab Emirates (2015); United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2016); United States of America (2015); Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (2015); Viet Nam (2016).

Bureau of the Human Rights Council

5. At its organizational session on 16 December 2013, the Human Rights Council elected the following members of the Bureau for its eighth cycle, which will run until 31 December 2014: President of the Council, Baudelaire Ndong Ella (Gabon); Vice-Presidents, Maurizio Enrico Serra (Italy), Dilip Sinha (India), Alberto D'Alotto (Argentina); Vice-President and Rapporteur, Kateřina Sequensová (Czech Republic).

[1] The term of membership of each State expires in the year indicated in parenthesis.

Selection and appointment of mandate holders

6. In accordance with paragraph 47 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and the requirements set out in Council decision 6/102, the consultative group comprising Luis Enrique Chávez Basagoitia (Peru), Omar Hilale (Morocco), Rytis Paulauskas (Lithuania), Yeonchul Yoo (Republic of Korea) and Elissa Golberg (Canada) will propose to the President of the Council a list of candidates for the new mandate holders to be appointed at the twenty-sixth session: Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (one member from Asia-Pacific States) and Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent (one member from African States).

7. In accordance with the procedure stipulated in paragraphs 52 and 53 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, the appointment of special procedures mandate holders will be completed upon the subsequent approval by the Council. The mandate holders in question will be appointed before the end of the twenty-sixth session.

Report of the session

8. At the end of its session, the Human Rights Council will have before it for adoption a draft report prepared by the Rapporteur. The report will include the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Council and the President's statements, as well as a technical summary of the proceedings of the twenty-sixth session.

2. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

9. All reports of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General are submitted under agenda item 2, which remains an open-ended item throughout the session. These reports will be considered at the time of consideration of relevant agenda items, as appropriate. The specific timing of their introduction will be reflected in the programme of work.

Violence against women

10. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 50/166, the Human Rights Council will have before it the report of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on the activities of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women (A/HRC/26/17-E/CN.6/2014/8) (see also para. 32 below).

Preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age as a human rights concern

11. In its resolution 24/11, the Human Rights Council requested the Office of the High Commissioner, in close collaboration with the World Health Organization, to prepare concise technical guidance on the application of a human rights-based approach to the implementation of policies and programmes to reduce and eliminate preventable mortality

and morbidity of children under 5 years of age, and also requested the Office to convene an expert workshop to discuss the draft of the technical guidance. In accordance with resolution 24/11, the Council will hear the oral update of the Office on the issue.

Promotion of the enjoyment of the cultural rights of everyone and respect for cultural diversity

12. In its resolution 20/11, the Human Rights Council requested the Office of the High Commissioner to convene, in 2013, a seminar of two working days on the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications in order to further clarify the content and scope of this right and its relationship with other human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right of everyone to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he or she is the author. In accordance with resolution 20/11, the Council will consider the summary report of the Office on the seminar held on 3 and 4 October 2013 (A/HRC/26/19).

Trafficking in persons, especially women and children

13. In its resolution 20/1, the Human Rights Council requested the Office of the High Commissioner to organize, in close cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, consultations with States, regional intergovernmental bodies and organizations and civil society on the draft basic principles on the right to effective remedy for trafficked persons, and to submit a summary thereon to the Council. The Council will consider the report of the Office on the consultations (A/HRC/26/18) (see also para. 34 below).

Strengthening efforts to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage

14. In its resolution 24/23, the Human Rights Council requested the Office of the High Commissioner to prepare a report on preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage, with a particular focus on challenges, achievements, best practices and implementation gaps, to be submitted to the Council prior to its twenty-sixth session, and to guide the panel discussion on the same issue (see para. 30 below). The Council will consider the report of the Office (A/HRC/26/22).

Business and human rights

15. In its resolution 21/5, the Human Rights Council requested the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its twenty-sixth session on the challenges, strategies and developments with regard to the implementation of resolution 21/5 by the United Nations system, including programmes, funds and agencies, and to make concrete recommendations for action. In the same resolution, the Council also requested the Secretary-General to undertake a feasibility study to explore the establishment of a global fund to enhance the capacity of stakeholders to advance the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and to present the conclusions thereof to the Council and include them in the report of the Secretary-General. The Council will have before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/HRC/26/20 and Add.1) (see also paras. 40 and 51 below).

Operations of the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review

16. In its decision 17/119 and its resolution 19/33, the Human Rights Council requested the Office of the High Commissioner to provide a report on the operations of the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Universal

Periodic Review. The Council will have before it the report thereon of the Office (A/HRC/26/54).

Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights

17. In its resolution 24/31, the Human Rights Council requested the Office of the High Commissioner to prepare a report on the activities undertaken by the Office, other relevant United Nations agencies and, where applicable, regional organizations to support efforts by States to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities in their national legislation, policies and programmes, including to mainstream disability in development efforts, and requested that the report be made available in accessible, easy-to-read format on the website of the Office, for submission to the Council at its twenty-sixth session, to serve as a basis for the thematic panel discussion. The Council will have before it the report prepared by the Office (A/HRC/26/24) (see also paras. 64 to 67 below).

Technical assistance and capacity-building for South Sudan in the field of human rights

18. In its resolution 23/24, the Human Rights Council requested the High Commissioner to submit an interim report to the Council at its twenty-sixth session on progress in technical assistance and capacity-building for South Sudan in the field of human rights. In President's statement 25/2, the Council stressed the importance of its continued attention to this human rights situation, including through the report of the High Commissioner called for in resolution 23/24. The Council will have before it the report of the High Commissioner (A/HRC/26/23) (see also para. 68 below).

3. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

A. Economic, social and cultural rights

Preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age as a human rights concern

19. Reference is made to the oral update of the Office of the High Commissioner on technical guidance on the application of a human rights-based approach to the implementation of policies and programmes to reduce and eliminate preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age (see para. 11 above).

Cultural rights

20. Reference is made to the report of the Office of the High Commissioner on the seminar on the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications in order to further clarify the scope of this right (A/HRC/26/19) (see para. 12 above).

Right to education

21. In its resolution 17/3, the Human Rights Council requested the Special Rapporteur on the right to education to report to the Council on a yearly basis in accordance with its programme of work. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Kishore Singh (A/HRC/26/27 and Add.1).

Extreme poverty and human rights

22. In its resolution 17/13, the Human Rights Council requested the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights to submit an annual report on the implementation of resolution 17/13 to the Council. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Maria Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona (A/HRC/26/28 and Add.1-3).

Right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health

23. In its resolution 24/6, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health for a further period of three years, and requested the Special Rapporteur to submit an annual report to the Council. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Anand Grover (A/HRC/26/31).

B. Civil and political rights

Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association

24. In its resolution 24/5, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, as established by the Council in its resolution 15/21, for a period of three years, and requested the Special Rapporteur to continue to report annually to the Council. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Maina Kiai (A/HRC/26/29 and Add.1-2).

Freedom of opinion and expression

25. In its resolution 25/2, the Human Rights Council requested the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression to submit an annual report to the Council covering all activities relating to the mandate, with a view to maximizing the benefits of the reporting process. In its resolution 23/2, the Council invited the Special Rapporteur to include in his reports an analysis of the role of freedom of opinion and expression in improving women's participation in political, social, cultural and economic life and in advancing gender equality, as well as an analysis of the challenges that women face in exercising their freedom of opinion and expression. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Frank La Rue (A/HRC/26/30 and Add.1-3).

Independence of judges and lawyers

26. In its resolution 17/2, the Human Rights Council requested the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers to report regularly to the Council in accordance with its programme of work. In its resolution 25/4, the Council invited the Special Rapporteur to take full account of resolution 25/4 in the discharge of her mandate. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Gabriela Knaul (A/HRC/26/32 and Add.1).

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

27. In its resolution 8/3, the Human Rights Council requested the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions to submit to the Council his or her findings on an annual basis. In its resolution 17/5, the Council extended the mandate for a further three years. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Christof Heyns (A/HRC/26/36 and Add.1-2).

C. Rights of peoples, and specific groups and individuals

Safety of journalists

28. In its decision 24/116, the Human Rights Council decided to convene, at its twenty-sixth session, a panel discussion on the issue of the safety of journalists, with a particular focus on discussing the findings made in the report of the Office of the High Commissioner (A/HRC/24/23), identifying challenges and further developing good practices for ensuring the safety of journalist by sharing information on initiatives undertaken to protect them (see annex).

High-level panel on the identification of good practices in combating female genital mutilation

29. It its decision 24/117, the Human Rights Council decided to organize a high-level panel discussion at its twenty-sixth session on the identification of good practices in combating female genital mutilation so that an exchange of views may take place concerning the progress made, good practices, and challenges and obstacles encountered in the effort to combat female genital mutilation, as well as the initiatives undertaken at the national, regional and international levels with a view to its eradication (see annex).

Strengthening efforts to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage

30. In its resolution 24/23, the Human Rights Council decided to convene, at its twenty-sixth session, a panel discussion on preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage, with a particular focus on challenges, achievements, best practices and implementation gaps (see annex).

31. Reference is also made to the report of the Office of the High Commissioner on strengthening efforts to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage: challenges, achievements, best practices and implementation gaps (A/HRC/26/22) (see para. 14 above).

Violence against women, its causes and consequences

32. In its resolution 23/25, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, as set out by the Council in its resolution 16/7, for a period of three years. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Rashida Manjoo (A/HRC/26/38 and Add.1-4).

33. Reference is also made to the report on the activities of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women (A/HRC/26/17-E/CN.6/2014/8) (see also para. 10 above).

Trafficking in persons, especially women and children

34. In its resolution 17/1, the Human Rights Council extended the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children for a period of three years, and requested the mandate holder to report annually to the Council on the implementation of that resolution. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Joy Ngozi Ezeilo (A/HRC/26/37 and Add.1-7).

35. Reference is also made to the report of the Office of the High Commissioner on the consultations held on trafficking in persons, especially women and children (A/HRC/26/18) (see also para. 13 above).

Discrimination against women

36. In its resolution 23/7, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice for a period of three years on the same terms as provided for by the Council in its resolution 15/23. Also in resolution 23/7, the Council requested the Working Group to continue to work on its thematic priorities, namely, political and public life, economic and social life, family and cultural life, and health and safety, and to dedicate specific attention to good practices that have contributed to mobilizing society as a whole, including men and boys, in the elimination of discrimination against women. The Council also took note of the intention of the Working Group to focus its next report on the issue of discrimination against women in economic and social life, including in times of economic crisis. The Council will consider the report of the Working Group (A/HRC/26/39 and Add.1-2).

37. In its resolution 6/30, the Human Rights Council decided to incorporate into its programme of work sufficient and adequate time, at minimum an annual full-day meeting, to discuss the human rights of women, including measures that can be adopted by States and other stakeholders, to address human rights violations experienced by women. The Council will hold a full-day discussion at its twenty-sixth session (see annex).

Internally displaced persons

38. In its resolution 23/8, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons for a period of three years, and invited the Special Rapporteur to continue to submit annual reports on the implementation of the mandate, making suggestions and recommendations regarding the human rights of internally displaces persons, including on the impact of measures taken at the inter-agency level. The Council will consider the annual report of the Special Rapporteur, Chaloka Beyani (A/HRC/26/33 and Add.1-4).

Human rights of migrants

39. In its resolution 17/12, the Human Rights Council extended the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants for a further three years. In its resolution 23/20, the Council requested the Special Rapporteur to, in accordance with his mandate, continue to pay attention to the topic of the universal enjoyment of human rights for all migrants. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, François Crépeau (A/HRC/26/35 and Add.1).

D. Interrelation of human rights and human rights thematic issues

Human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises

40. In its resolution 17/4, the Human Rights Council established a working group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises for a period of three years, and requested it to report annually to the Council and the General Assembly. The Council will consider the report of the Working Group (A/HRC/26/25 and Add.1-5) (see also para. 15 above and para. 51 below).

Human rights and international solidarity

41. In its resolution 23/12, the Human Rights Council requested the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity to, inter alia, continue to identify areas to be addressed, the main concepts and norms that can form the basis of a framework, and good practices to inform the future development of law and policy with regard to human rights

and international solidarity. The Council also requested the Independent Expert to submit a report on the implementation of resolution 23/12 to the Council at its twenty-sixth session. The Council will consider the report of the Independent Expert, Virginia Dandan (A/HRC/26/34 and Add.1-2).

4. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

42. In its resolution 25/25, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in accordance with the Council resolution 22/13, for a period of one year, and requested the Special Rapporteur to submit regular reports to the Council and to the General Assembly. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Marzuki Darusman (A/HRC/26/43).

Situation of human rights in Belarus

43. In its resolution 23/15, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus for a period of one year, and requested the Special Rapporteur to submit a report to the Council at its twenty-sixth session. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Miklós Haraszti (A/HRC/26/44).

Situation of human rights in Eritrea

44. In its resolution 23/21, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea for a period of one year, and requested her to present a report to the Council at its twenty-sixth session. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Sheila B. Keetharuth (A/HRC/26/45).

Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

45. In its resolution 22/24, the Human Rights Council requested the commission of inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic established by resolution S-17/1 to investigate all alleged violations of international human rights law since March 2011 in the Syrian Arab Republic to continue to update its mapping exercise of gross violations of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic, including the assessment of casualty figures, and to publish it periodically. In its resolution 25/23, the Council decided to extend the mandate of the commission through to the twenty-eighth session of the Council. The commission will provide, in accordance with resolution 25/23, an oral update to the Council during an interactive dialogue at its twenty-sixth session.

5. Human rights bodies and mechanisms

A. Advisory Committee

Promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations

46. In its resolution 22/16, the Human Rights Council requested the Advisory Committee to present a progress report on a research-based report on best practices and main challenges in the promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations, with a focus on human rights mainstreaming in relief, recovery and reconstruction efforts, to the Council at its twenty-sixth session for its consideration. The

Council will have before it a note by the secretariat on the report of the Advisory Committee (A/HRC/26/40).

Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

47. In its resolution 23/3, the Human Rights Council requested the Advisory Committee to prepare, in consultation with States, a more focused and in-depth study on the ways and means to enhance international cooperation in the field of human rights, including, but not limited to, the identification of areas where further progress could be made, taking into account responses received further to the consultations as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 67/169, and to submit a progressive report to the Council at its twenty-sixth session. In its resolution 25/3, the Council re-emphasized its request to the Advisory Committee to prepare the study. The Council will consider the report of the Advisory Committee (A/HRC/26/41).

Negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights

48. In its resolution 23/9, the Human Rights Council requested the Advisory Committee to submit a research-based report to the Council at its twenty-sixth session on the issue of the negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights, and to make recommendations on how the Council and its subsidiary bodies should consider this issue. The Council will consider the progress report of the Advisory Committee (A/HRC/26/42).

B. Special procedures

49. The Human Rights Council will have before it the communications report of special procedures (A/HRC/26/21). The full report will be available online.

C. Social Forum

50. In its resolution 24/25, the Human Rights Council decided that the Social Forum would meet for three working days in 2014, and also decided that the Forum, at its next meeting, should focus on the rights of older persons, including best practices in this regard. Also in resolution 24/25, the Council invited the 2014 Social Forum to submit a report containing its conclusions and recommendations to the Council at its twenty-sixth session. The Council will consider the report of the Forum on the session held from 1 to 3 April 2014 (A/HRC/26/46).

D. Forum on Business and Human Rights

51. In its resolution 17/4, the Human Rights Council decided to establish a forum on business and human rights under the guidance of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises to discuss trends and challenges in the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and promote dialogue and cooperation on issues linked to business and human rights, including challenges faced in particular sectors, operational environments or in relation to specific rights or groups, as well as identifying good practices. The Council will have before it a note by the secretariat on the summary of discussions held at the Forum, held from 2 to 4 December 2013 (A/HRC/26/26).

52. Reference is also made to the report of the Secretary-General on the challenges, strategies and developments with regard to the advancement of the business and human rights agenda (A/HRC/26/20 and Add.1) and to the report of the Working Group on the

issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises (A/HRC/26/25) (see also paras. 15 and 40 above).

E. Open-ended intergovernmental working group on the right to peace

53. In its resolution 20/15, the Human Rights Council decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental working group with the mandate of progressively negotiating a draft United Nations declaration on the right to peace. In its resolution 23/16, the Council requested the working group to prepare a report on progress made and to submit it to the Council as a pre-session document, to be made available in all official languages of the United Nations, for consideration at its twenty-sixth session. The Council will have before it a note by the Secretariat relating to the second session of the Working Group (A/HRC/26/47).

F. Open-ended intergovernmental working group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas

54. In its resolution 21/19, the Human Rights Council decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental working group with the mandate of negotiating, finalizing and submitting to the Council a draft United Nations declaration on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas. Also in resolution 21/19, the Council requested the working group to submit a report on progress made to the Council for its consideration at its twenty-sixth session. The Council will consider the report of the working group (A/HRC/26/48).

6. Universal periodic review

55. In its resolution 5/1, the Human Rights Council established the universal periodic review mechanism as contained in section I of the annex to that resolution. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review held its eighteenth session from 27 January to 7 February 2014. At its twenty-sixth session, the Council will consider the final outcome of the review of Afghanistan (A/HRC/26/4), Cambodia (A/HRC/26/16), Chile (A/HRC/26/5), Comoros (A/HRC/26/11), Cyprus (A/HRC/26/14), the Dominican Republic (A/HRC/26/15), Eritrea (A/HRC/26/13), New Zealand (A/HRC/26/3), Slovakia (A/HRC/26/12), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (A/HRC/26/10), Uruguay (A/HRC/26/7), Vanuatu (A/HRC/26/9), Viet Nam (A/HRC/26/6) and Yemen (A/HRC/26/8).

56. Pursuant to President's statement 9/2 on modalities and practices for the universal periodic review process, the report of the Working Group, together with the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, as well as voluntary commitments made and replies presented by the State under review, before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary, to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group, would constitute the outcome of the review, to be adopted by the Council at its plenary session through a standardized decision.

57. Reference is also made to the report of the Office of the High Commissioner on the operations of the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/26/54) (see also para. 16 above).

7. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

58. No reports to be considered under agenda item 7.

8. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

59. No reports to be considered under agenda item 8.

9. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance: follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

60. In its resolution 25/32, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance for a further period of three years, in accordance with the terms of reference contained in Council resolution 7/34. Also in resolution 25/32, the Council requested the Special Rapporteur to submit an annual report to the Council and to the General Assembly. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Mutuma Ruteere (A/HRC/26/49 and Add.1-2).

61. In its resolution 68/150 on combating glorification of Nazism and other practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, the General Assembly requested the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism to prepare, for submission to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-sixth session, a report on the implementation of that resolution. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur (A/HRC/26/50).

62. In its resolution 24/26, the Human Rights Council requested the Secretary-General to resuscitate the work of the independent eminent experts before the end of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly and, in this regard, to recommend further initiatives and actions. Also in resolution 24/26, the Council requested the independent eminent experts to convene a special meeting before 31 December 2013 to conduct an appraisal of the work undertaken hitherto and the recommendations made in that regard in order to present an update report to the Council at its twenty-fifth session. As indicated in the note by the Secretariat submitted to the Council at its twenty-fifth session (A/HRC/25/70), the independent eminent experts held their third meeting on 4 February 2014 and will therefore submit the report on the meeting to the Council for its consideration at its twenty-sixth session (A/HRC/26/56).

Follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

63. In its resolution 25/33, the Human Rights Council emphasized the need to urgently heed the instruction of the General Assembly contained in paragraph 2 of its resolution 68/237, and in this regard requested the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action to dedicate its programme of work at its twelfth session, to be held from 7 to 17 April 2014, to the purposes of elaborating a programme of activities for the implementation of the

International Decade for People of African Descent. Also in resolution 25/33, the Council requested the Intergovernmental Working Group to present its final report in this regard to the Council at its twenty-sixth session. The Council will have before it the report of the Working Group on its twelfth session (A/HRC/26/55).

10. Technical assistance and capacity-building

Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights

64. In its resolution 24/31, the Human Rights Council decided, in accordance with resolution 18/18, that the theme for the annual thematic panel discussion to be held during the twenty-sixth session of the Council would be "Technical cooperation and capacity-building in advancing the rights of persons with disabilities through legal and institutional frameworks, including public-private partnerships" (see annex).

65. Reference is made to the report of the Office of the High Commissioner on the activities undertaken by the Office, other relevant United Nations agencies and regional organizations to support efforts by States to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities in their national legislation, policies and programmes, including to mainstream disability in development efforts (A/HRC/26/24) (see also para. 17 above).

66. In its resolution 18/18, the Human Rights Council invited the High Commissioner to make an annual presentation on the overview of and successes, best practices and challenges in technical assistance and capacity-building efforts, particularly those provided by the Office of the High Commissioner and relevant United Nations agencies. The High Commissioner will make a presentation during the twenty-sixth session.

67. Also in resolution 18/18, the Human Rights Council invited the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights to present a comprehensive report on the Board's work to the Council on an annual basis. The Council will have before it the report of the Board of Trustees (A/HRC/26/51).

Technical assistance and capacity-building for South Sudan in the field of human rights

68. Reference is made to the report of the Office of the High Commissioner on technical assistance and capacity-building for South Sudan in the field of human rights (A/HRC/26/23) (see also para. 18 above).

Situation of human rights in Côte d'Ivoire

69. In its resolution 23/22, the Human Rights Council decided to renew the mandate of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Côte d'Ivoire for a period of one year, and requested the Independent Expert to submit a report to the Council at its twenty-fifth session (A/HRC/25/73) and his recommendations at the twenty-sixth session. The Council will have before it the recommendations of the Independent Expert, Doudou Diène (A/HRC/26/52).

Situation of human rights in the Central African Republic

70. In its resolution 24/34, the Human Rights Council decided to appoint an Independent Expert, for a period of one year, to monitor the situation of human rights in the Central Africa Republic and to make recommendations concerning technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights, and requested the Independent Expert to present a preliminary report to the Council at its twenty-sixth session. Pursuant to

resolution S-20/1, adopted on 20 January 2014 at the twentieth special session of the Council, the Independent Expert undertook an urgent visit to the Central African Republic and presented an oral update to the Council at its twenty-fifth session. The Council will consider the preliminary report of the Independent Expert, Marie-Therese Keita Bocoum (A/HRC/26/53).

Annex

Panel discussions to be held at the twenty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council

Resolution / decision	*Panel / discussion*
24/116 Panel discussion on the safety of journalists	Panel discussion on the issue of the safety of journalists
24/117 High-level panel on the identification of good practices in combating female genital mutilation	High-level panel discussion on the identification of good practices in combating female genital mutilation
24/23 Strengthening efforts to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage: challenges, achievements, best practices and implementation gaps	Panel discussion on preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage
6/30 Integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system	Annual full-day discussion on the human rights of women
18/18 and 24/31 Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights	Panel discussion on technical cooperation and capacity-building in advancing the rights of persons with disabilities through legal and institutional frameworks, including public-private partnerships